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No More Library Fines

New policy clears debts; restores access

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The Portland Observer

Volume XLVIV • Number 16



'City of Roses'

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Committed to Cultural Diversity



Windows were smashed at a Bank of America branch on Northeast Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard for the second time last week after a protest march on police brutality and racial justice descended into violence and vandalism.

Damages Assailed as Setback

Voices raised against protest violence, vandalism

BY MICHAEL LEIGHTON
PORTLAND OBSERVER EDITOR

Advocates for Portland's African American community joined black leaders in law enforcement this week to speak out against the violence, vandalism and arson fires that have marred many of the daily protests over unjust police shootings and racial bias in the criminal justice system.

"We have to be smart," said Joe "Bean" Keller, a black father who lost his son to a police shooting in 1996 and has led a sustained campaign for justice for his son ever since.

Keller said the violence and vandalism that has erupted after several recent protests damages the cause of prosecuting bad cops and adopting better policing practices because it turns people who would be supporters against a growing justice movement to address bias in policing.

Even though he still seeks justice in his own son's

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Joe "Bean" Keller is leading a delegation of Portland families like his own who have lost loved ones to police violence to attend the 57th anniversary of the March on Washington this coming Aug. 28. He is pictured with artist Emma Berger, creator of a mural calling attention to the death of black men at the hands of police in front the Apple store on Southwest Yamhill, downtown.

On the Front Lines for Change

Bereaved father organizes March on Washington

BY MICHAEL LEIGHTON
PORTLAND OBSERVER EDITOR

Support is growing for a bereaved father from Portland's Black community who is leading a group of individuals from families like his to Washington, D.C. for the 57th anniversary of the March on Washington to promote racial justice and demand action to stop unjust police shootings.

Joe "Bean" Keller, who lost his son in a Portland police shooting back in 1996, is leading the delegation of at least a dozen other Portlanders to the Aug. 28 march organized by Al Sharpton's National Action Network

Keller told the Portland Observer that thanks to \$10,000 in donations that had been generated by a Go

Fund Me account through Monday, he and two members of his family and members from at least 12 other families in Portland will attend the anniversary event. All of the planned participants have lost a family member at the hands of police.

The aim now is to attract even more donations to make it possible for another 10 Portland family members impacted by police violence to travel to Washington, D.C. to raise their voices for racial justice.

The upcoming march commemorates the 1963 March on Washington in which Dr. Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his "I have a Dream" speech at the Lincoln Memorial, but it comes with additional significance this year because of the Memorial Day police custody death of George Floyd, an unarmed black man whose "knee-choke hold" death in Minneapolis sparked continued protests in

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Advocate Named to Prosper Portland Board

Newest board member promotes equal access

The Portland City Council Wednesday approved the appointment of long time education advocate and Portland native Serena Stoudamire Wesley to the Prosper Portland Board of Commissioners. A five member panel, the volunteer board oversees the city's economic and development agency.

Wesley is youth development director for the Oregon Department of Education and has more than 20 years of experience in program management, community relations and education policy. She previously served as Gov. Kate Brown's policy director for diversity, equity and inclusion.

In a statement released by Prosper Portland, Wesley said she wants to ensure that the agency's mission of advancing economic and social equity, along with creating jobs and closing gaps of disparity, align with her interest in ensuring that



Serena Stoudamire Wesley

all members of the community have equal access to the opportunities that will come with Portland's development and growth.

"I have lived through the changes that have directly and indirectly impacted my family and community through the years," she said. "I am very passionate and motivated about this place I call home and want to contribute to the revitalization and transformation of Portland."

Prosper Portland is defined by a commitment to grow quality jobs, advance opportunities for prosperity, create vibrant neighborhoods and communities, and collaborate with partners to create an equitable city, with prosperity shared by Portlanders of all colors, incomes and neighborhoods.



A woman wearing a mask walks past a sign on the door of a church in Pullman, Wash. Both Washington Gov. Jay Inslee and Oregon Gov. Kate Brown have announced new requirements for masks to be worn in public spaces to help prevent the spread of the coronavirus. (Photo courtesy AP)

New Urgency to Mask Up as Virus Spreads

Coronavirus spreads in urban and rural areas

(AP) — People throughout Oregon are now required to wear face coverings in public spaces to slow the spread of the coronavirus.

The guidance issued June 29 from Oregon Gov. Kate Brown applies to businesses and members of the public using indoor public spaces. Face covering requirements had already been mandated in Portland and eight adjacent counties one week earlier.

Over the last month, Brown said the disease has spread at an alarming rate in both urban and rural counties.

"Modeling from the Oregon Health Authority shows that if we don't take further action to reduce the spread of the disease, our hospitals could be overwhelmed by new COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations within weeks," Brown said.

The governor has also extended the COVID-19 state of emergency for 60 days.

The state of emergency declaration is the legal

underpinning for the executive orders Brown has issued throughout the pandemic, including her orders on reopening Oregon, as well as orders related to childcare, schools, and higher education operations. Extending the state of emergency declaration allows those orders to stay in effect.

Face coverings that cover the nose and mouth play a critical role in reducing the spread of the disease because droplets from people's breath can carry the virus to others without people realizing it, she said.

Brown said she did not want to close businesses again as has happened in other states that are seeing a spike in cases. She said Oregon Occupational Safety and Health (OSHA) will take the lead in enforcing face covering requirements for all covered Oregon businesses.

For most people, the new coronavirus causes mild or moderate symptoms, such as fever and cough that clear up in two to three weeks. For some, especially older adults and people with existing health problems, it can cause more severe illness, including pneumonia and death.



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ACLU files Police Lawsuit

The American Civil Liberties Union of Oregon filed a class-action lawsuit against Portland Police and the city last week on behalf of journalists and legal observers who they say were targeted and attacked

The Week in Review

by the police with tear gas and rubber bullets while documenting Black Lives Matter protests.

Eviction Ban Extended

Oregon lawmakers passed an extension last month to an eviction ban during the coronavirus pandemic that extends the moratorium on both commercial and residential no-cause evictions through Sept 30 and creates a six-month repayment grace period after the moratorium ends for tenants to repay their back rent.

Support Collapses for I-5 Build

Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler announced last week he was withdrawing his support for the I-5 Rose Quarter Project which would add lanes to a congested part of the freeway, citing a lack of representation from the communities the project would impact, including Albina Vision, a group advo-

cating for rebuilding a displaced Black community in the area.

Charged with Sex Trafficking

A Portland man, Tracy Steven Rasberry, 55, was indicted last week on 24 counts of promoting prostitution. The district attorney's office, citing court documents, said the alleged crimes occurred in January and February of 2019.

Old Apple Tree Dies

It survived the most severe floods, winds, drought, ice and snow, but not 2020. For all practical purposes, Vancouver's venerable Old Apple Tree has died at the age of 194. In recent days, dying leaves suddenly appeared throughout the

tree. Arborists determined that the cambium layer of the tree, which serves as the arteries that transport water and nutrients to the canopy, had failed due to a natural shifting of the tree.

No More Oregon Civil War

To advance equal opportunity and justice for all and in recognition that Black Lives Matter, the University of Oregon and Oregon State last week agreed to drop the name "Civil War" for their rivalry games. OSU President Ed Ray said the name was divisive because it represented a connection to a war fought to perpetuate slavery.

Confederate Emblem Removed

Mississippi lawmakers voted last week to surrender the Confederate battle emblem from their state flag; more than a century after white supremacist legislators adopted the design a generation after the South lost the Civil War. Spectators cheered and applauded after the historic votes.

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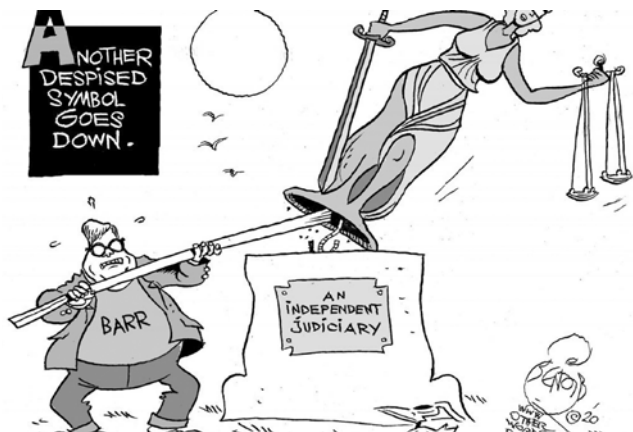
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LOCAL NEWS



The Multnomah County Central Library, downtown. (Wikipedia Commons)

No More Library Late Fees

New policy
clears debts;
restores access

Multnomah County Library will permanently stop charging late fines on all library materials, clear all existing fines and restore access to accounts blocked because of fines, effective immediately. Patrons will continue to be billed for unreturned materials.

“Our public libraries exist to provide free and equal access to shared resources for everyone,” Multnomah County Chair Deborah Kafoury announced last week. “And yet, the practice of assessing punitive fines for late returns has locked people out, many of whom are already facing

hardships. The resources, support and sense of belonging found in our libraries are needed urgently during these trying times, and I’m grateful that this change will further open access to this community asset.”

The library will remove fine debt for 72,861 patron accounts in an amount totaling \$730,185 and restore library account access for more than 2,000 people who had their accounts blocked due to fines in excess of \$50.

“We have watched closely as a growing body of research has shown that late fines don’t work, that a large percentage can never be collected and that ending the practice doesn’t increase the number of late returns,” said Director of Libraries Vailey Oehlke. “Other library systems as close

as Vancouver and as far away as Washington, D.C. have ended the practice, and it’s well past time we did the same. This change will help Multnomah County Library truly serve its community in a free and equal way.”

In fiscal year 2019, the library collected about \$548,755 in overdue fines (about 0.5% of its adopted FY21 annual budget). Overdue fine revenue has decreased significantly over time (from nearly \$1 million in 2016), as e-books and audiobooks have grown in popularity and since the library eliminated youth fines in 2016 and educator fines in 2018.

“Late fines cause some patrons to avoid using the library at all because they are unable to

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Black Pioneers Hire Expert

Professional
is first to lead
group in 27
years

The Oregon Black Pioneers, a group founded in 1993 to research, recognize and commemorate the culture and heritage of African Americans in the state, has hired a professional historian to help guide the organization for the first time in its history.

Zachary A. Stokes started work on July 1. He was hired by the



Zachary A. Stokes

organization’s board of directors who cited his substantial skills and the capacity to strategically guide and advance the organization forward, officials said.

“We are pleased to welcome him aboard,” said Oregon Black Pioneers President Willie Richardson.

In a news release, Stocks said he was “eager to build a sustainable path for the organization’s growth, and build new excitement around Oregon’s unique African American cultural traditions.

“Now is a turbulent time in our

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The Portland Observer

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No More Library Late Fees

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

pay the fines and they fear having a conversation about debt. Everyone in our community benefits when people can access the materials and resources they need to learn, grow, be creative, and make their lives better for themselves and their families," said Oehlke. "Ending fines is one way the library is taking immediate action and creating a

positive change for our community."

Library materials will still have due dates and patrons are encouraged to return their library materials within the checkout period. Items will automatically renew if there are no holds on the item. For items that are not automatically renewed, if materials are not returned 49 days after the due date, patrons will be charged replacement costs. Those fees are

cleared if the items are returned.

After building closures due to COVID-19, the library is now offering holds pickup service at every library location (except Sellwood-Moreland and Albina libraries). The library doesn't currently have an estimated date for when it will be able to offer in-person services beyond holds pickup. Library services updates will be posted at multcolib.org/covid19.

On the Front Lines for Change

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Portland and across the nation demanding action on racial justice.

Keller said because of the financial support, the march is going to include individuals from several Portland families that "know the pain" of what it is like when a son or daughter is murdered at the hands of police, like when his son "Deontae J. Keller was shot in the back, handcuffed and left to die by then Portland Police Officer Terry Kruger 24 years ago.

Other individuals planning on attending, Keller says, represent mostly other members of

the Black community in Portland who had loved ones killed at the hands of police, including Kendra James, James Jahar Perez, Aaron Campbell, Byron Hamick, Rickey Johnson, Quanice Hayes, Keaton Otis, Jason Washington and Carlos Hunter.

Keller said that while the ultimate goal is to change the hearts of Americans when it comes to taking action to stop racial injustice, participating in the march is expected to be part of the healing process for family members still struggling over the loss of their loved ones.

Donations are still being accepted to help make the visit to

Washington, D.C. a reality for the Portland families who wish to attend. You can give financial support by visiting the Go Fund Me site <http://gf.me/u/x7ywtj>.

So far, a generous contribution of \$5,000 from Don't Shoot Portland, the organization led by Teressa Raiford, is the largest and only donation received from organizations representing the black community thus far, Keller said. Raiford, who just finished an unsuccessful campaign for Mayor in the May Primary, also gave an additional individual contribution of \$500. Former Portland City Commissioner Randy Leonard donated \$100.

Damages Assailed as Setback

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

case, calling for the officer who shot him in the back to be charged with murder, even after 24 years, Keller isn't against all cops.

"I'm not against police overall. We have bad cops and good cops," he told the Portland Observer. "We need police to respond if there is a break-in to your home. We need police in so many ways."

Keller's 20 year-old son Deontae Keller was killed after being

pulled over by Portland police while driving a car suspected of gang activity. He was shot in the back when he jumped out of the car and ran.

Keller said progress against unjust police shootings will be measured by changing the hearts of people who are resistance to changes in policing, and the violence and hate that has been erupting, in isolated cases, mostly late at night after peaceful protests, only reinforces a frame of mind that has stalled previous efforts to old police accountable.

Newly appointed Police Chief Chuck Lovell, who is black, said when rioters barricaded the doors of the North Precinct last week and started fires outside they endangered people inside and were harming the community.

Several businesses on Northeast Martin Luther King were vandalized for at least the second time last week. It came during the predawn hours, four hours after a peaceful protest that started at Peninsula Park, moved to a police union office on Lombard Street, and descended into four violent confrontations between protesters and police in riot gear.

Long time leader Ron Hernon of Portland's African Amer-

ican community, said the violence committed during protests have nothing to do with helping Black people, saying it needlessly scares neighbors and their children.

Portland Police Union President Daryl Turner, who is black, said police "have show amazing restraint as violent criminal act have gone on for almost 40 days nonstop."

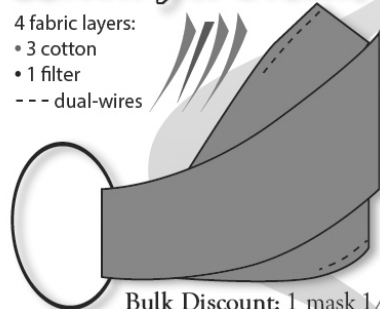
The protests began in Portland and nationally after the Memorial Day police custody death of George Floyd in Minneapolis, a black man whose neck was pinned to ground and died in a struggle to breathe.

"As riots continue, it is obvious to everyone that this is no longer about George Floyd, social justice or police reform," Turner said. "This is about a group of individuals' intent on causing injury, chaos and destruction by rioting, looting, starting fires and towing rocks, bottles, mortars, urine, and feces at peaceful protestors as well as the police."

The city's elected officials "should not allow a meaningful dialogue and protests about racial and social equity to be drowned out by the sound of rioting and violence," Turner said.

Lovecrafts Mask

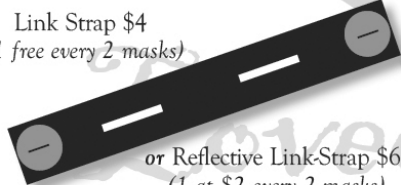
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SPORTS

Blazers Playoff Drive Restarts July 31

Orlando to host eight “seeding games”

The Portland Trail Blazers are now scheduled to resume the 2019-20 season with a matchup against the Memphis Grizzlies on July 31 in Orlando, Fla. It comes after league play was disrupted by the coronavirus pandemic in March.

The NBA and the National Basketball Players Association finalized a comprehensive plan last week to restart to the season starting on July 30, which includes stringent health and safety protocols, a single-site campus at Walt Disney World Resort and the goal of taking collective action to combat systemic racism and promote social justice.

Under the format, the 22 participating teams will be the eight teams in each conference with the highest current winning percentages and the six teams, including Portland, that are currently within six games of the eighth seed in either conference.

The restart will begin with each participating team playing eight “seeding games” in Orlando, as selected from its remaining regular-season matchups. For the Trail Blazers, the games are scheduled July 31 vs. Memphis; Aug. 2 vs. Boston; Aug. 4 vs. Houston; Aug. 6 vs. Denver; Aug. 8 vs. the Los Angeles Clippers; Aug. 9 vs. Philadelphia; Aug. 11 vs. Dallas; and Aug. 13 vs. Brooklyn.

All eight games will be televised by NBC Sports Northwest (NBCSNW) or national carriers and aired on the Trail Blazers radio network.

At the conclusion of the seeding games, the seven teams in each conference with the highest combined winning percentages across regular-season games and seeding games will be the first through seventh seeds for the NBA Playoffs for that conference.

If the team with the eighth-best combined winning percentage (regular-season games and seeding games) in a conference is more than four games ahead of the



Portland Trail Blazers guard Damian Lillard urges on the crowd after scoring during an NBA basketball game against the Houston Rockets in Portland last Jan. 29. (AP photo)

team with the ninth-best combined winning percentage in the same conference, then the team with the eighth-best winning percentage would be the eighth playoff seed in that conference.

If the team with the eighth-best combined winning percentage in a conference (Team 8) is four games or fewer ahead of the team with the ninth-best combined winning percentage in the same conference (Team 9), then those two teams would compete in a play-in tournament to determine the eighth playoff seed in the conference. The play-in tournament will be double elimination for Team 8 and single elimination for Team 9.

The NBA’s standard playoff tiebreaker procedures will be used to break any ties on the basis of winning percentage. Once the 16-team playoff field is set, the NBA Playoffs will proceed in a traditional conference-based format with four rounds and best-of-seven series in each round. The 2020 NBA Finals will end no later than Oct. 13, league officials said.

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PHOTO BY ANDIE PETKUS COURTESY OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Experience Oregon exhibit at the Oregon Historical Society, downtown, confronts many of the hardships and successes for diverse populations who have called the state their home, including American Americans, Japanese Americans and Indigenous peoples. The museum is re-opening on Saturday under new safety protocols to protect for the health of staff and visitors during the coronavirus pandemic.

Experience Oregon Reopens Saturday

Museum adapts with new health and safety protocols

After nearly four months closed, the Oregon Historical Society plans to re-open its downtown museum to the public on Saturday under new health and safety protocols to protect the health of staff and visitors during the coronavirus pandemic. Admission is always free to Multnomah County residents.

When the museum closed on

March 14, the Oregon Historical Society was about to debut a new original exhibition, *Nevertheless, They Persisted: Women's Voting Rights and the 19th Amendment*, which chronicles the complicated history of woman suffrage for voting rights and profiles the brave activists who fought for change.

Now extended through mid-2021, visitors to the exhibit will see how Oregon was closely intertwined in the national history of woman suffrage and to the complex history of American democracy.

"Nevertheless, They Persisted will prompt visitors to reflect on voting rights and the many ways

that activists have fought to universalize this basic right of citizenship," said Kerry Tymchuk, the museum's executive director. "We were excited to open this exhibition in March, and four months later, the important messages of the power of activism shared in *Nevertheless, They Persisted* feel even more relevant today."

Oregon women gained the right to vote in 1912, the initiative passing with a 52% majority after five prior failed attempts spanning nearly 30 years. It was not until the ratification of the 19th Amendment in 1920, however, that women across the country gained the right to vote in local and national

elections. Even then, these rights did not extend to all women — restrictions on citizenship continued for Native Americans and first-generation Asian Americans well into the 20th century, and frequently used voter-suppression methods.

Nevertheless, *They Persisted*, and the Oregon Historical Society's recently renovated permanent exhibition, *Experience Oregon*, give visitors an honest, and often difficult, look at our state's history.

In a recent statement on racial justice and equality, Tymchuk and OHS Board President Mary Faulkner wrote, "The Oregon

Historical Society recommit itself to being a valuable resource by documenting, preserving, and sharing our state's history, from all perspectives, and in all its complexities. We hope that everyone will continue to help guide us in providing knowledge of the past and working to build a more just and equitable society in the future."

Museum visitors will be asked to adhere to health guidelines by wearing a face covering and maintaining a safe six foot distance between people and groups. For safety, hand-on interactive features in open exhibits are closed until further notice.



PepsiCo honors Bill Jackson with a banner and his picture on a can of Pepsi for his 50 years of service as an employee at the company's distribution center in northeast Portland.

Honored for 50 Years of Service

Bill Jackson, a lifetime member of Portland's African American community, is being honored for 50 years of service with PepsiCo.

"Bill, thank you for your dedication to this company and your community. May we all gain inspiration from your incredible legacy here at PesiCo," a company proclamation declared.

Jackson has a passion for giving back by mentoring under-privileged black children in the community as well as mentoring new hires at Pepsi for the past 40 years. He is also a leader for driving conversations on race in Portland and the workplace, making sure the topic is addressed in an appropriate manner and helping to ensure different perspectives have been considered.

Up until five years ago, Jackson held two jobs, as a nigh loader with Pepsi, and security for Portland Public Schools. Since then, he has maintained his full-time Pepsi job on dayshift as a replenisher, checker and transport unloader.

"He truly exemplifies the meaning of 'hard work, and for the first 30 years of his career, worked full time with Pepsi at night and also worked fulltime at Fred Meyer during the day," company officials said.

Jackson also was recently honored by having a new street named for him, inside the re-developed five block area for PesiCo's new distribution center north of Sandy Boulevard, between Northeast 25th and 27th Avenues, which also includes new space for housing.

Before joining Pepsi in 1970, Jackson served in the U.S. Marine Corps.



Bill Jackson is pictured in front of the new street named in his honor for the redevelopment of a PepsiCo distribution center inside a 5-block area north of Sandy Boulevard, between 25th and 27th Avenues that also includes new space for housing. Jackson has been an employee for the company since 1970

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT



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Filmmaker Puts Focus on Kaepernick

Netflix series to explore player's path to activism

(AP) — Colin Kaepernick is joining with Emmy-winning filmmaker Ava DuVernay on a Netflix drama series about the teenage roots of the former NFL player's activism.

"Colin in Black & White" will examine Kaepernick's high school years to illuminate the experiences that shaped his advocacy, Netflix said Monday.

"Too often we see race and Black stories portrayed through a white lens," Kaepernick said in a statement. "We seek to give new perspective to the differing realities that Black people face. We explore the racial conflicts I faced as an adopted Black man in a white community, during my high school years."

Kaepernick, born to a white mother and Black father, was adopted in Wisconsin by a white couple who moved to California when he was a child.

In 2016, the San Francisco 49ers quarterback began kneeling during the national anthem to protest police brutality and racial inequality, drawing both support and criticism, with his detractors including President Donald Trump. Kaepernick became a free agent in 2017 but went unsigned.

Writing on the six-episode series was completed in May, the streaming service said. DuVernay, writer Michael Starrbury and Kaepernick are the executive producers. Kaepernick will appear as himself as the limited



Filmmaker Ava DuVernay (left) is working with Colin Kaepernick in a new Netflix miniseries about the teenage roots of the former NFL player's activism. Netflix says the limited series, titled "Colin in Black & White," will examine Kaepernick's high school years. (AP photos)



series' narrator, Netflix said.

Further casting details and a release date were not immediately announced.

Kaepernick called it an honor to collaborate with DuVernay, whose credits include the award-winning "When They See Us," which dramatized the Central Park Five case, and the Oscar-nominated documentary "13th."

"With his act of protest, Colin Kaepernick ignited a national conversation about race and justice with far-reaching consequences for football, culture and for him, personally," DuVernay said in a statement. "Colin's story has much to say about identity, sports and the enduring spirit of protest and resilience."

Kaepernick, who led the 49ers to the Super Bowl following the

2012 season, filed a grievance against the league in 2017, contending teams colluded to keep him out. The sides reached an undisclosed settlement in 2019.

The 32-year-old Kaepernick still wants an opportunity to play. A workout in Atlanta last November that was organized by the NFL turned chaotic and resulted in no job offers.

In the aftermath of nationwide protests following the death of George Floyd, NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell apologized to players for not listening to them earlier and encouraged them to protest peacefully. Goodell says he's encouraged teams to sign Kaepernick.

"This young man is talented enough to play in the National Football League," league executive Troy Vincent said recently.

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*Happy
Birthday
Korie!*

Opinion articles do not necessarily represent the views of the Portland Observer. We welcome reader essays, photos and story ideas. Submit to news@portlandobserver.com.

OPINION

Letter to the Editor

NAACP Applauds Police Bills

The Portland branch of the NAACP applauds the slew of policy accountability bills passed in the Legislature's historic special session late last month—it is gratifying to see the politics of the moment turned into action.

Of particular note is the content of SB 1604, which, after receiving bipartisan support in previous sessions, managed to escape dilution and clear both chambers. This bill goes a long way toward reforming the manner in which police officers are disciplined and the role of arbitration in that process.

Officers whose termination or disciplinary action is overturned by an arbitrator do not have credibility with the public or their peers. Standardization, consistency, and transparency in the discipline are all important and necessary components of police reform as we ride this wave of transformation.

We want to pause here and stress that these pieces of legislation are just the beginning. The People of Color Caucus are to be commended for their excellent work, and likewise, understand that we have a long way to go.

Here in Portland, in addition to the changes that will come as a result of SB 1604, we support the push for a truly independent police accountability panel with subpoena powers to avoid any perception of “The police policing the police.” This panel should be diverse and representative.

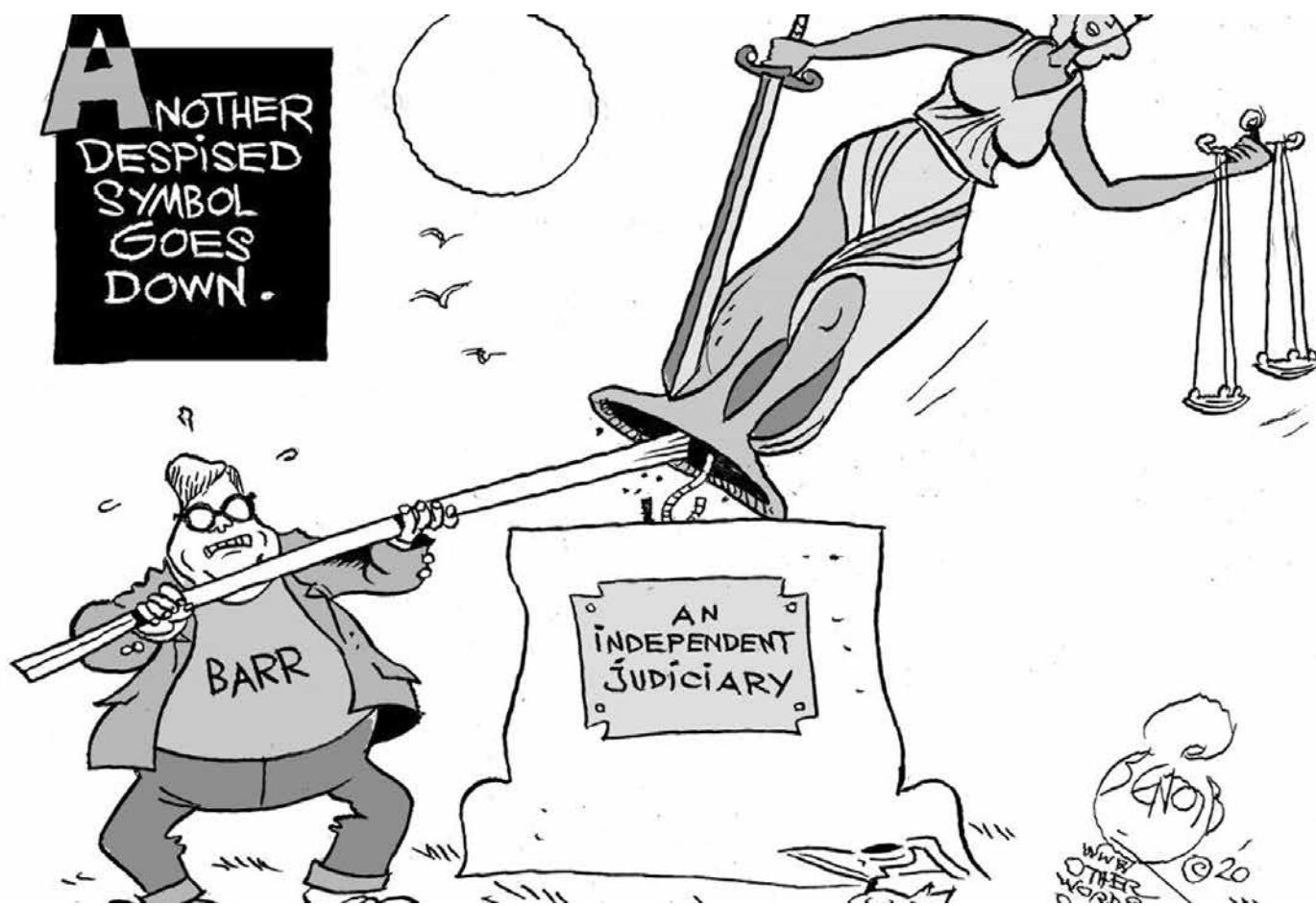
We need to do everything we can to ensure discipline from misconduct is in line with the public's expectations. We believe the trust of the community can in fact be won by the police overtime under the right circumstances.

Right now, demonstrators across the country are demanding more from those sworn to protect and serve. If the PPB is ever to live up to being “Portland's Finest,” they need to chip away at the wall separating themselves from the citizens they police. We imagine a future where both the police and ordinary citizens consider themselves to be on the same side: Working together to improve public safety and neighborhood livability.

From the Senate floor, Sen. Lew Frederick quoted a stanza of Lift Every Voice and Sing, often referred to as the Black National Anthem and in 1919, it became the official song of the NAACP. In it, the lyrics encourage us to embrace “The faith that the dark past has taught us.”

We share Sen. Frederick's desire to “March on until victory is won,” although we are unsure that our dark past should inspire faith. Our hope is that this time is different and that a year from now we find ourselves in a world vastly improved from the one we are in now. To accomplish that, perhaps a little faith is needed.

E.D. Mondainé, Portland NAACP president



Police Protecting Powerful Not a Public Good Maybe now that can change

BY RAVI MANGLA

For decades, we've been told that policing is a public good: available to all, for the benefit of all. But in practice, that's never been true.



One of the basic measures of a “public good” is that it's accessible to all people in a society, regardless of ability to pay. But from the beginning, policing in this country was designed to protect the assets of the most privileged.

Boston merchants were the first to persuade lawmakers in 1838 that a full-time, publicly funded police force would serve the “collective good.” In reality, they wanted to get the public to pay for protecting their shipped goods and routes.

In the South, where the economy depended on enslaved labor, publicly funded slave patrols were created in 1704 to surveil, track, and punish Black people who attempted to escape. As historian Sally Hadden notes, “Most law enforcement was, by definition, white patrolmen watching, catching, or beating Black slaves” — who were legally considered the property of wealthy white men.

Today, all across the U.S., landlords and property managers enlist law enforcement to forcibly evict low-income tenants. Police regularly remove homeless individuals from parks and public spaces. And cops routinely stop, search, and threaten Black and brown people

when they drive or walk through white neighborhoods.

We've seen these disparities in policing increase since the outbreak of COVID-19. And soon, with eviction moratoriums lifting across the country, tens of thousands of struggling tenants will be sent eviction notices. When families have no place else to go and landlords call in law enforcement, who do you think the police will serve and protect?

For centuries, police have taken the side of power, at the expense of those most marginalized.

Police have never protected Black lives

we had a federal jobs guarantee, people would not be forced into an underground economy that fuels a cruel and punishing prison system.

But instead of addressing root causes of insecurity, leaders of both parties have often chosen to defund education and hospitals while resisting significant reductions to policing.

What if public safety were a public good? What would that look like?

It would mean funding nonviolent tools to de-escalate and respond to safety concerns. It would mean engaging community members in collective decision-making,

“If people had guaranteed housing, there would be no one sleeping in subway cars, in parks, or on sidewalks for the police to round up.”

as much as they protect white property. And when people protest having their safety threatened — as in the nationwide protests after the murder of George Floyd — they're met with further violence from police.

Safety is born out of investment in true public goods. Policing in America reveals a lack of it.

If people had guaranteed housing, there would be no one sleeping in subway cars, in parks, or on sidewalks for the police to round up. If people had universal health care, mental health problems might be treated instead of criminalized. And if

ing, since each community has unique needs. And, most importantly, it means using an anti-racist framework to create new approaches to public safety.

We're in a transformative moment in history where structural change is within our grasp. Reform has failed time and time again to address the problem of police violence. It's more clear than ever that we need to divest from policing and invest in universal public goods that create true public safety, not just the illusion of it.

Ravi Mangla is political education program manager for Citizen Action of New York.

CLASSIFIED/BIDS

REQUEST FOR BIDS



2020-06 ITB for Engine Related Parts for Cummins Engines

Clark County Public Transportation Benefit Area (dba C-TRAN) has issued an Invitation to Bid (ITB) for Engine Related Parts for Cummins Engines. This ITB may be found at <https://www.c-tran.com/about-c-tran/business/procurement/bid-and-proposal-opportunities>. Proposals will be accepted until 11:00 a.m. on Thursday July 10, 2020.

SUB BIDS REQUESTED

Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing RFP PCC Sylvania - Biology Project Portland, OR

Bids Due: July 17th, 2020 at 5:00pm

Lease Crutcher Lewis, LLC, serving as the General Contractor for the new PCC Sylvania Biology Project, is soliciting proposals from qualified Mechanical, Plumbing, and Electrical (including low voltage scopes). The total building construction cost is projected to be approximately \$4.3 Million. The MEP scope of work is currently at a design development level, without fully defined costs. The work is to be completed as a single phase with (8) months of construction. The existing space is approximately 20,700 gross square feet.

Contract Documents and the Invitation to Bid may be reviewed at the following locations: The entire RFP Package (including all project documents attached as exhibits) can be viewed via Lewis' website at: www.lewisbuilds.com

Click "Contact" and then "Bid Opportunities" under Portland.

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Software Dev. Engg (Adv.) - Portland - Req. Bachelor's/equiv. in Comp Engg/Comp Sci or closely related tech. field w/7 yrs work exp as a Software Developer w/lead responsibilities to include 3 yrs w/in Internet Service Provider industry. For full requirements & to apply visit: ADTRAN, Inc., Job #3492: www.adtran.com/careers

Oregon's Minimum Wage Increases on July 1, 2020



Graphic from Oregon Employment Department

Oregon's Minimum Wage Increases

July brings fourth increase since 2016

Minimum wage workers in Oregon got a raise effective with the turn of the calendar last week.

"Minimum wage increases help make sure that hardworking Oregon families can afford the essentials in our state," says Labor Commissioner Val Hoyle. "If you make minimum wage, you should check your paycheck to make sure

you get your raise."

As of July 1, 2020 Oregon minimum wages are \$13.25 per hour for the Portland metro area; \$12 per hour for less populated areas of the state and \$11.50 per hour for non-urban counties.

These rate increases are the fourth yearly increases since 2016. Minimum wage rates will continue to increase each year until 2023, at which point they will be indexed to inflation based on Consumer Price Index, a figure published by the U.S Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The federal minimum wage has not gone up since 2009. At \$7.25, it is now a full \$4.25 less per hour than Oregon's lowest minimum wage. Oregon workers must be paid Oregon minimum wage, with few exceptions.

Workers who aren't receiving the correct minimum wage or don't receive the increased minimum wage can contact the Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) to make a complaint at oregon.gov/minimumwage. Employers can visit the same webpage for more information or call 971-673-0824.

Black Pioneers Hire Expert

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

nation's history. But as we continue to reckon with racial injustices and police violence, and the impacts of a global pandemic which disproportionately affects Black and brown communities, the resilience of our ancestors gives me hope. Along with the Board of Directors, I look forward to uplifting the stories of our past and our

present through OBP's renowned preservation and interpretation work," he said.

Zachary has an M.A. in Museology from the University of Washington and a B.A. in Anthropology from the College of William and Mary. He comes to Oregon Black Pioneers after a decade of operational and public programs leadership in historical nonprofits.

He is the former Visitor Services Manager of the Northwest

African American Museum in Seattle and Program Director for Historical Seaport, and he has interpreted African American history at Colonial Williamsburg and Lewis and Clark National Historical Park.

Zachary is also credited with developing an independent consulting effort to boost institutional equity efforts in rural Oregon museums. He also brings broad experience in strategic planning, communications, education, exhibitions, and community engagement.

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Gov. Kate Brown sat down with masked Oregon State troopers Friday who just two days earlier went into a Corvallis coffee shop without face coverings despite her statewide order to wear masks to prevent spreading the coronavirus. After Friday's meeting, Brown said the troopers pledged to do better and she didn't want to judge or fire anybody over one mistake.

Troopers Make Peace with Governor

Gov. Kate Brown sat down with Oregon State troopers on Friday just two days after they were recorded on surveillance video going into a Corvallis coffee shop without face coverings despite her statewide order to wear masks to prevent spreading the coronavirus.

One of those troopers reportedly openly questioned the governor's order and is on leave, but

the others met with the governor at Mahonia Hall, her residence in Salem.

According to reports from The Oregonian/OregonLive, the trooper went into the Allan Bros. Coffee & Tea shop on Wednesday last week without a face covering and told an employee, "Governor Brown has no authority to take our civil liberties. We aren't going to

wear masks."

On Thursday, both the governor and Oregon State Police Superintendent Travis Hampton called the reported exchange at the coffee shop unacceptable.

"Let me crystal clear: No one is above the law. Superintendent Hampton and I expect the Oregon State Police to lead by example," said Brown.

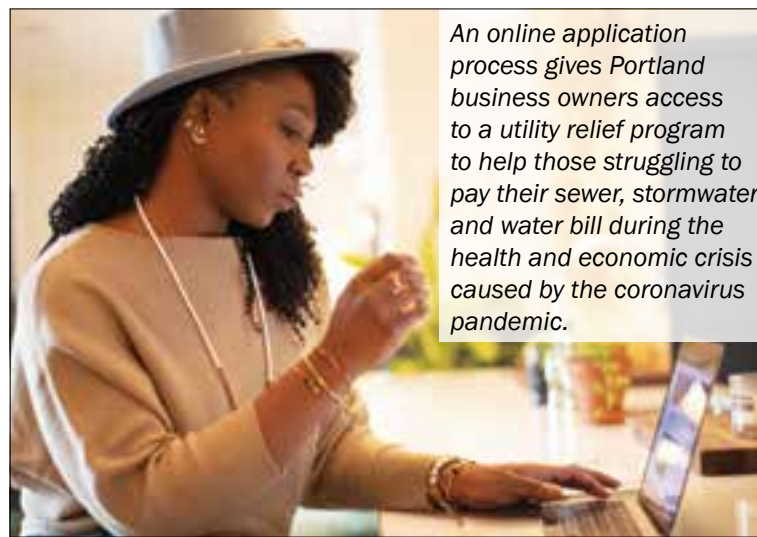
COVID Utility Relief Applications Due

Program geared to struggling businesses

Applications open Wednesday, July 8, for a program offering discounts on sewer, stormwater and water bills for small businesses in Portland struggling financial hardships during the ongoing public health and economic crisis.

The application deadline is July 22 and no applications will be accepted after that date, officials said.

The Portland Water Bureau and Bureau of Environmental Services have pledged \$1 million in financial support for small businesses impacted by the coronavirus pandemic, building on the work done by Prosper Portland, the city's



An online application process gives Portland business owners access to a utility relief program to help those struggling to pay their sewer, stormwater and water bill during the health and economic crisis caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

economic development agency.

Credits for city of Portland utility bills are expected to assist between 200 and 300 small businesses and will range between \$1,000 and \$10,000.

The applications will be pri-

oritized using a racial equity and vulnerability lens. Small businesses are invited to apply by visiting portlandoregon.gov/water/small-biz. For more information, you can also call the city's customer service staff at 503-823-7770.

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*Joyce Washington Believed in this Community
and all those that made this Community Great.*

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Emergency Food Stamps Extended Maximum benefits to last through July

The Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS) has received approval by the Food and Nutrition Service to provide an additional \$30 million to eligible Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients this month because of the coronavirus pandemic.

"Oregonians continue to face economic instability and food insecurity," said Self-Sufficiency Programs Director Dan Haun. "Providing another month of emergency assistance will help address ongoing food needs."

With the additional funds, all eligible Oregon SNAP households will receive the maximum benefit amount in July, officials said. They will receive the extra allotment in the same way they receive their current benefits. For most customers this is an EBT card.

No additional action is needed from Oregonians already enrolled in SNAP, officials said. The maximum SNAP benefits are based on the number of eligible people in the household. For a household of one, for example, the amount is \$194; for a family of three it's \$309 and for a family of five it is \$768.

This allotment will not permanently change a household's monthly benefit amount. It is a temporary supplement to help during the current health crisis. DHS will not be sending individual notices to households about the emergency allotments.

Learn how to apply for SNAP and other benefits online or by calling 2-1-1 or visiting oregon.gov/DHS/COVID-19.

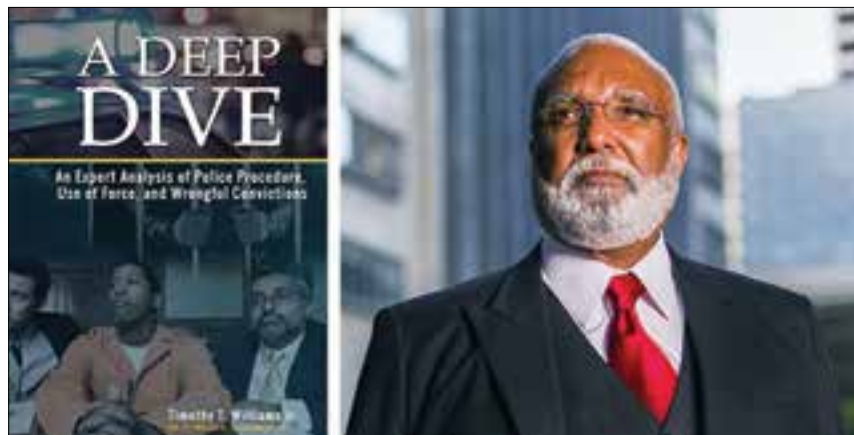
Former Cop on Police Culture of Violence Book explores impacts on minority communities

According to a 2019, USA Today report, at least 85,000 law enforcement officers across the United States have been investigated or disciplined for misconduct over the past decade. Moreover, in minority communities throughout America there has been an urgent crisis in policing since the early 20th century.

Presently, there is a perceived uptick in the media concerning improper police procedure and use of force, including killings of unarmed African American citizens like that of George Floyd in Minneapolis, and Rayshard Brooks in Atlanta. While no two cases are alike, there is a universal set of rules that governs when and how police officers should use force.

Timothy T. Williams Jr., a leading expert on police procedure, use of force and wrongful convictions, believes that, "Unfortunately, in minority and white communities, law enforcement has a different approach as it relates to policing the respective groups."

Williams said the easing of Coronavirus stay at home orders and use of masks, increases the opportunity for different types of policing, subjecting



Retired Los Angeles police detective Timothy T. Williams Jr. dives deep into police procedure, use of force, and wrongful convictions in his debut book 'American Policing: A Culture of violence in Minority Communities.'

minorities to a higher probability of being stopped vs. white counterparts.

"If additional racial bias training isn't embraced, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic and for protests, there will be continued civil rights violations that will cost municipalities millions of dollars," Williams said.

A study of 100 million traffic stops by 21 state patrol agencies from 2011 to 2017, found that police had a lower bar for stopping and searching black and Hispanic drivers than they did for stopping white drivers, NBC News Reports. Research also shows that police are more likely to target and use unnecessary force against them too.

Perceptions of a few "bad apples" within police departments are quickly being dispelled due to such data and video recordings from cell phones and

security cameras. Such visual evidence captures what appears to be a culture of violence in an almost daily onslaught of misconduct by police officers, especially toward minority communities.

In his timely debut book, *A Deep Dive: An Expert Analysis on Police Procedure, Use of Force and Wrongful Convictions*, Williams recounts his experiences as a retired Los Angeles Police Department senior detective supervisor.

An over 29-year LAPD veteran, Williams launched his private consultancy practice in 2003, and has provided expert testimony in over 200 cases and analysis of over 1,200 cases. Williams has been hired by some of the most recognizable names in law including The Innocence Project, The Cochran Firm, Carl Douglas, Mark Geragos, and Thomas Mesereau.

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To get more info on Covid-19 please visit NAACPvancouverWA.org